PA IDC

QUERY CONTROL FORM		RTIS USE ONLY	
Application No. 09/889465	Prepared by C. Januari	Tracking Number	5948.864
Examiner-GAU Killos - 1625	Date 5/20/04	Week Date	5/1404
7511102	No. of queries	IFW	

JACKET					
a. Serial No.	f. Foreign Priority	k. Print Claim(s)	p. PTO-1449		
b. Applicant(s)	g. Disclaimer	I. Print Fig.	q. PTOL-85b		
Continuing Data	h. Microfiche Appendix	m. Searched Column	r. Abstract		
d. PCT	i. Title	n. PTO-270/328	s. Sheets/Figs		
e. Domestic Priority	j. Claims Allowed	o. PTO-892	t. Other		

SPECIFICATION	MESSAGE
a. Page Missing	
b. Text Continuity	3 provisional applications listed on
c. Holes through Data	bib in continuing data - but no
d. Other Missing Text	continuing data paragraph in text.
e. Illegible Text	
f. Duplicate Text	Plase advise
g. Brief Description	
h. Sequence Listing	
i. Appendix	
j. Amendments	
k. Other	
CLAIMS	thank you
a. Claim(s) Missing	
b. Improper Dependency	
c. Duplicate Numbers	
d. Incorrect Numbering	initials 4
e. Index Disagrees	RESPONSE possoles.
f. Punctuation	u u
g. Amendments	
h. Bracketing	
i. Missing Text	
j. Duplicate Text	
k. Other	
	initials C7

BRANCHED CHAIN AMINO ACID-DEPENDENT AMINOTRANSFERASE INHIBITORS AND THEIR USE IN THE TREATMENT OF DIABETIC

RETINOPATHY

Or 8 CT/US 00 30769 CKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

More than 14 million people in the United States have diabe diabetes are at risk of retinal complications. However, people with type I, i.e., insulindependent diabetes, face a greater risk of severe vision loss than people with type II, i.e., non-insulin dependent diabetes.

Retinopathy is any non-inflammatory disease of the retina. Diabetic retinopathy is any retinopathy associated with any form of diabetes mellitus.

Initially, the high blood glucose level in diabetic people causes an increase in growth factors in their eyes. This condition is known as the "pre-diabetic retinopathy stage" and can lead to full diabetic retinopathy, if not prophylactically treated.

Retinopathy will affect the majority of diabetic people to some extent during their lifetimes. It is the leading cause of blindness in Americans of age 20 to 74 today, and is expected to impair vision in approximately one-third of diabetic people in the United States. Each year in the United States, as many as 40,000 new cases of blindness occur among diabetic people (CDC, unpublished data, 1993). Diabetic people are 25 times more likely than the general population to become blind due to retinopathy.

Diabetic retinopathy has two stages-a nonproliferative stage, which typically occurs first, and a proliferative stage. The nonproliferative stage, which is also referred to as "background diabetic retinopathy." is characterized by thickening of the basement membrane, loss of retinal pericytes, microvascular abnormalities, intraretinal microaneurysms, retinal hemorrhages (also known as "dot blot" hemorrhages), retinal edema, in particular diabetic macular edema, capillary closure associated with retinal ischemia or poor retinal perfusion (i.e., poor vessel development) and soft and hard exudates. The proliferative stage, which affects an estimated 700.000 Americans (Chen et al., J. Miss. State Med. Assoc. 36(7): 201-208 (1995)), is characterized by neovascularization and fibrovascular growth (i.e., scarring involving glial and fibrous elements) from the retina or optic nerve over the inner surface of the retina or disc or into the vitreous cavity.

15

5

10

20

30

25